

U.S. Serial No.: 09/442,256
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

--2. A composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of one or more extracts of plant material, wherein the plant material is obtained from a plant selected from the group consisting of *Glinus lotoides*, *Ruta chalepensis*, *Hagenia abyssinica*, and *Millettia ferruginea*.--

--3. The composition of claim 2, wherein the extracts of plant material are obtained by contacting the plant material with a solvent selected from the group consisting of organic solvents, cell media, and water.--

--4. The composition of claim 3, wherein the organic solvent is polar.--

--5. The composition of claim 3, wherein the organic solvent is non-polar.--

--6. The composition of claim 3, wherein the organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, hexane, ether, and acetone.--

--7. The composition of claim 3, wherein the cell media is selected from the group consisting of 10% serum DMEM, serumless DMEM, RPMI 1640, HAM's F12, CMRL 1066, McCoy's 5A, Medium 199, Waymouth MB752, Eagle MEM, Joklik MEM, and alpha-MEM.--

--8. The composition of claim 2, wherein the plant material is selected from the group consisting of flowers, leaves, seeds, stems, and mixtures thereof.--

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--9. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition comprises two or more extracts of plant material derived from the same or different plants.--

--10. The composition of claim 2, further comprising a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.--

--11. The composition of claim 10, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier is suitable for oral administration, intranasal administration, rectal administration, or parenteral administration.--

--12. The composition of claim 11, wherein the parenteral administration is intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, or intraperitoneal injection.--

--13. The composition of claim 10, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier is in a form selected from the group consisting of tablets, capsules, powders, suppositories, suspensions, and solutions.--

--14. The composition of claim 10, further comprising coloring agents, flavoring agents, or combinations thereof.--

--15. The composition of claim 2, wherein the extract of plant material is prepared in a form of a liquid, powder, or tablet.--

--16. The composition of claim 2, wherein the extract of plant material is present in an amount ranging from about 1 to about 100 % by weight of the composition.--

--17. The composition of claim 16, wherein the extract of plant material is present in an amount ranging from about 10 to about 90 % by weight of the composition.--

--18. The composition of claim 17, wherein the extract of plant material is present in an amount ranging from about 20 to about 80 % by weight of the composition.--

--19. The composition of claim 18, wherein the extract of plant material is present in an amount ranging from about 30 to about 70 % by weight of the composition.--

--20. The composition of claim 19, wherein the extract of plant material is present in an amount ranging from about 40 to about 60 % by weight of the composition.--

--21. The composition of claim 20, wherein the extract of plant material is present in an amount that is about 50 % by weight of the composition.--

--22. A method for preparing the composition of claim 3, by extracting the plant material into a solvent or a mixture of solvents, comprising:

contacting the plant material with the solvent or mixture of solvents to form a liquid extract and a crude material, and

separating the liquid extract from the crude material.--

--23. The method of claim 22, wherein the solvent comprises cell media or water, comprising:

- (a) contacting the plant material with the cell media or water, the cell media or water present in amount sufficient to substantially cover the plant material,
- (b) mixing the plant material and cell media or water to form a mixture, and
- (c) separating the mixture into a liquid extract and a crude material.--

--24. The method of claim 23, wherein separating (c) comprises a method selected from the group consisting of centrifugation, filtration, or allowing the mixture to settle.--

--25. The method of claim 24, wherein separating (c) comprises multiple centrifugations resulting in the recovery of multiple liquid extracts.--

--26. The method of claim 25, wherein the multiple liquid extracts are combined.--

--27. The method of claim 23, wherein mixing (b) is accomplished by vortexing.--

--28. The method of claim 22, wherein the solvent comprises a first organic solvent or a mixture of organic solvents, and wherein contacting the plant material with the first organic solvent or a mixture of organic solvents forms a first liquid extract and a first crude material.--

--29. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

- (a) separating the first liquid extract and the first crude material,
- (b) again extracting the first crude material using an organic solvent or a mixture of solvents to form an additional liquid extract and an additional crude material, and
- (c) separating the additional liquid extract from the additional crude material.--

--30. The method of claims 29, wherein the additional crude material is extracted one or more times using an organic solvent or a mixture of solvents to form further additional liquid extracts.--

--31. The method of claim 29, wherein the first liquid extract is combined with the additional liquid extract.--

--32.. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

- (a) separating the first liquid extract and the first crude material,
- (b) contacting a different plant material with an organic solvent or a mixture of solvents to form a second liquid extract and a second crude material.--

--33. The method of claim 32, further comprising separating the second liquid extract from the second crude material and combining the first and second liquid extracts to form a mixture thereof.--

--34. The method of claim 32, further comprising separating the second liquid extract and the second crude material, and again extracting the first or the second crude material one or more times using an organic solvent or a mixture of solvents, to form additional liquid extracts.--

--35. The method of claim 34, wherein the first and second extracts are combined with the additional liquid extracts.--

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--36. The method of claim 28, wherein the first organic solvent is removed from the first liquid extract to produce a substantially dried pellet, and wherein the substantially dried pellet is suspended in an aqueous solution.--

--37. The method of claim 32, wherein the first and second organic solvents are removed from the solution of the first and second liquid extracts to produce a substantially dried pellet, and wherein the substantially dried pellet is suspended in an aqueous solution.--

--38. The method of claim 22, further comprising combining the liquid extract with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.--

--39. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

- (a) removing the solvent or mixture of solvents from the liquid extract to produce a substantially dried pellet, and
- (b) combining the substantially dried pellet with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.--

--40. The method of claim 38, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier is suitable for administration by a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intranasal administration, rectal administration, and parenteral administration.--

--41. A method of treating cancer, HIV and other viral infections, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, tuberculosis, or fungal infections comprising administering a therapeutic amount of one or more extracts of plant material, wherein the plant material is obtained from a plant selected from the group consisting of *Glinus lotoides*, *Ruta chalepensis*, *Hagenia abyssinica*, and *Milletia ferruginea*, either alone or in combination with a suitable pharmaceutical composition, to a patient in need thereof.--

--42. The method of claim 41, wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, prostate cancer, leukemia, melanoma, and myeloma.--

--43. The method of claim 41, wherein the composition is administered by a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, intranasal administration, rectal administration, and parenteral administration.--

--44. The method of claim 43, wherein the parenteral administration comprises intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, or intraperitoneal injection.--

--45. The method of claim 43, wherein the amount of the composition administered per day ranges from about 5 mg/kg to about 2 g/kg body weight of the patient.--

--46. The method of claim 43, wherein *Millettia ferruginea* is administered orally at a daily dosage level ranging from about 10 mg/kg to about 100 mg/kg body weight of the patient.--

--47. The method of claim 43, wherein *Millettia ferruginea* is administered intravenously at a daily dosage level ranging from about 5 mg/kg to about 20 mg/kg body weight of the patient.--

--48. The method of claim 43, wherein *Hagenia abyssinica* is administered orally at a daily dosage level ranging from about 50 mg/kg to about 200 mg/kg body weight of the patient.--

--49. The method of claim 43, wherein *Hagenia abyssinica* is administered intravenously at a daily dosage level ranging from about 10 mg/kg to about 50 mg/kg body weight of the patient.--

--50. The method of claim 43, wherein *Ruta chalepensis* is administered orally at a daily dosage level ranging from about 10 mg/kg to about 2 g/kg body weight of the patient.--

--51. The method of claim 43, wherein *Ruta chalepensis* is administered intravenously at a daily dosage level ranging from about 50 mg/kg to about 1000 mg/kg body weight of the patient.--